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Serial No.: 10/027125
Art Unit: 2116
Examiner: Stoykov
Docket No.: AUS9 2001 0614 US1

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-8 (canceled).

9 (currently amended). A method for energy management, said method comprising:
determining a value for an energy condition affecting at least one computer in a cluster;
updating said value continuously;
comparing said value with a predefined limit regarding said energy condition;
based on said determining, said updating, and said comparing, utilizing at least one
energy mode chosen from:
storing energy;
operating said at least one computer on stored energy;
operating said at least one computer on external energy; and
standing by; and
performing said determining, said updating, and said comparing, for a plurality of energy
conditions.

10 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein said determining further comprises at least one of:
determining a time of day;
determining a price of energy;
determining a rate of energy consumption; and
determining an amount of stored energy.

11 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a price for energy; and
said utilizing further comprises said operating on stored energy, when said price is greater
than said predefined limit.

12 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a price for energy; and
said utilizing further comprises said storing energy, when said price is less than said
predefined limit.

13 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a price for energy; and
said utilizing further comprises said operating on external energy, when said price is less
than said predefined limit.

14 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a rate of energy consumption; and

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said utilizing further comprises said operating on stored energy, when said rate is greater than said predefined limit.

- 15 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a rate of energy consumption; and
said utilizing further comprises said storing energy, when said rate is less than said predefined limit.
- 16 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a rate of energy consumption; and
said utilizing further comprises said operating on external energy, when said rate is less than said predefined limit.
- 17 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is an amount of stored energy; and
said utilizing further comprises said storing energy, when said amount is less than said predefined limit.
- 18 (canceled).
- 19 (currently amended). A system for energy management, said system comprising:
means for determining a value for an energy condition affecting at least one computer in a cluster;
means for updating said value continuously;
means for comparing said value with a predefined limit regarding said energy condition;
and
means, responsive to said means for determining, said means for updating, and said means for comparing, for utilizing at least one energy mode;
means for storing energy; and
means for operating said at least one computer on stored energy;
further wherein said means for determining, said means for updating, and said means for comparing, are operative for a plurality of energy conditions.
- 20 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein said means for determining further comprises at least one of:
means for determining a time of day;
means for determining a price of energy;
means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
means for determining an amount of stored energy.
- 21 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said means for operating on stored energy is employed when said price is greater than said predefined limit.

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- 22 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said means for storing energy is employed when said price is less than said predefined limit.
- 23 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said utilizing further comprises means for operating on external energy, when said price is less than said predefined limit.
- 24 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
said means for operating on stored energy is employed when said rate is greater than said predefined limit.
- 25 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
said means for storing energy is employed when said rate is less than said predefined limit.
- 26 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
said means for utilizing further comprises means for operating on external energy, when said rate is less than said predefined limit.
- 27 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining an amount of stored energy; and
said means for storing energy is employed when said amount is less than said predefined limit.
- 28 (canceled).
- 29 (currently amended). A computer-usable medium having computer-executable instructions for energy management, said computer-executable instructions comprising:
means for determining a value for an energy condition affecting at least one computer in a cluster;
means for updating said value continuously;
means for comparing said value with a predefined limit regarding said energy condition;

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and
means, responsive to said means for determining, said means for updating, and said
means for comparing, for utilizing at least one energy mode;
means for storing energy; and
means for operating said at least one computer on stored energy;
wherein said means for determining, said means for updating, and said means for
comparing, are operative for a plurality of energy conditions.

30 (original). The computer-usable medium of Claim 29, wherein said means for determining further comprises at least one of:

means for determining a time of day;
means for determining a price of energy;
means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
means for determining an amount of stored energy.

31 (original). The computer-usable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said means for operating on stored energy is employed when said price is greater than
said predefined limit.

32 (original). The computer-usable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said means for storing energy is employed when said price is less than said predefined
limit.

33 (original). The computer-usable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said utilizing further comprises means for operating on external energy, when said price is
less than said predefined limit.

34 (original). The computer-usable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy
consumption; and
said means for operating on stored energy is employed when said rate is greater than said
predefined limit.

35 (original). The computer-usable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy
consumption; and
said means for storing energy is employed when said rate is less than said predefined
limit.

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- 36 (original). The computer-usable medium of Claim 29, wherein:
 said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
 said means for utilizing further comprises means for operating on external energy, when said rate is less than said predefined limit.
- 37 (original). The computer-usable medium of Claim 29, wherein:
 said means for determining further comprises means for determining an amount of stored energy, and
 said means for storing energy is employed when said amount is less than said predefined limit.
- 38 (canceled).